THE Making of Global World.

Class 10th
Sub History.

1. Silk Routes. Silk routes are a good example of vibrant pre modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world. The name of silk routes, points to the importance of west bound Chinese silk cargoes along this route. Historians have identified several silk routes, over land and by sea, knitting together vast regions of Asia, and linking Asia with Europe and North Africa. Chinese pottery also travelled the same route, as did textiles and spices from India and Southeast Asia. In return precious metals gold and silver flowed from Europe to Asia.

2. Food Travels: Spaghetti and potato. It is believed that noodles travelled west from China to become spaghetti. Or perhaps Arab traders took pasta to 5th century Sicily, an island now in Italy. Many of our common foods such as potatoes, soya, groundnut, maize, tomatoes, chillies sweet potatoes and so on were not know to our ancestors until about 5th century ago. These foods were only introduced in Europe and Asia.

3. Conquest, Disease and Trade. The pre modern world shrank greatly in the 16th century after European sailor found a sea route to Asia and also successfully crossed the western ocean to America. Before its discovery America had been cut off from regular contact with the rest of the world for millions of years. The Portuguese and Spanish conquest and colonisation of America wqs decisively under way by the middle of the 16th century. The most powerful weapon of the Spanish conqueror was not a conventional military weapon at all . It was the germs such as those of smallpox that they carried on their personas. once introduced it spread deep into the continent, ahead even of any Europeans reaching there. It killed and decimated whole communities paving the way for conquest.

4. How world Economy Takes shape: population growth from the late 18th century had increased the demand for food grains in Britain. As urban centres expanded and industry grew, the demand for agricultural products went up, pushing up food grain prices. Unhappy with the high food prices, industrialists and urban dwellers forced the abolition of the Corn Laws.

5. Role of technology: The railways, steamships the telegraph, for example, were important inventions without which we cannot imagine the transformed 19th century world. At the same time colonisation stimulated new investments and improvements in transport: faster railways, lighter wagons and larger ships helped move food more cheaply and quickly from faraway farms to final destinations.

6. Rinderpest and cattle plague. In Africa in the 1890s, fast spreading disease of the cattle plague or rinderpest had a terrifying impact on people's livelihoods and the local economy. It shows how in this era of conquest even a disease affecting cattle reshaped the lives and fortunes of thousands of people and their relations with the rest of the world. Rinderpest arrived in Africa in the late 1880s. It was carried by infected cattle imported from British Asia to feed the Italian soldiers invading Eritrea in East Africa. Entering Africa in the east, rinderpest moved west like forest fire, reaching Africa's Atlantic coast in 1892. Along the way rinderpest killed 90% of the cattle.
7. Indentured Labour Migration from India: in the 19th century, large number of Indian and Chinese labourers went to work on plantations, in mines and in road and railway construction projects around the world. In India indentured Labourers were hired under contracts which promised return travel to India after they had worked 5 years on their employers plantation. Most of the Indian workers came from the present day regions of eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, central India, and the dry districts of Tamil Nadu.

8. The inter war Economy. The First World War (1914-1918) was mainly fought in Europe. But its impact was felt around the world. During this period the world experienced widespread economic and political unrest, instability, and another catastrophic war. This war was the first modern industrial war. It saw the use of machines guns, tanks, aircraft chemical weapons etc. On a massive scale. To fight the war, millions of soldiers had to be recruited from around the world and moved to the front line on large ships and trains. The scale of death and destruction 9 million dead and 20 million injured _ was un thinkable before the industrial age, without the use of industrial arms.

I. THE MAKING OF A GLOBAL WORLD

Write in Brief

Q. 1. Give two examples of different types of global exchanges which took place before the seventeenth century, choosing one example from Asia and one from the Americas.

Ans. Examples of the different types of global exchanges which took place before the seventeenth century:

1) Textiles, spices and Chinese pottery were exchanged by China, India and Southeast Asia in return for gold and silver from Europe.

2) Gold and foods such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, tomatoes and chilies were first exported from the Americas to Europe.

Q. 2. Explain how the global transfer of disease in the pre-modern world helped in the colonisation of the Americas.

Ans. The global transfer of disease in the pre-modern world helped in the colonisation of the Americas because the Native American Indians were not immune to the diseases that the settlers and colonisers brought with them. The Europeans were more or less immune to small pox, but the Native Americans, having been cut off from the rest of the world for millions of years, had no defense against it. These germs killed and wiped out whole communities, paving the way for foreign domination. Weapons and soldiers could be destroyed or captured, but diseases could not be fought against.

Q. 3. Write a note to explain the effects of the following:

(a) The British government's decision to abolish the Corn Laws.

(b) The coming of Rinderpest to Africa.

(c) The death of men of working-age in Europe because of the World War.

(d) The Great Depression on the Indian economy.

(e) The decision of MNCs to relocate production to Asian countries.

Ans.

(a) The British government's decision to abolish the Corn Laws resulted in losses for the agricultural sector, but progress in the industrial sector. Food began to be imported more cheaply into Britain, and thousands of workers involved in cultivation became unemployed. However, consumption increased and the industrial sector grew, with more workers being available in cities than in rural areas.

(b) The coming of Rinderpest to Africa caused a loss of livelihood for countless Africans. Using this situation to their advantage, colonisingnations conquered and subdued Africa by monopolising scarce cattle resources to force Africans into the labour market.

(c) The death of men of working age in Europe because of the World War reduced the able-bodied workforce in Europe, leading to a steady decline in household incomes and a consequent struggle to meet the living expenditure by families whose men were handicapped or killed.

(d) The Great Depression had a major impact on the Indian economy. Between 1928 and 1934, it reduced Indian imports and exports by nearly half. Wheat prices too fell by 50% during this time. More than the urban areas, the agricultural sector (which dominated livelihoods in rural lands) was badly hit by the Great Depression.

(e) The decision of MNCs to relocate production to Asian countries led to a stimulation of world trade and capital flows. This relocation was on account of low-cost structure and lower wages in Asian countries. It also benefitted the Asian nations because employment increased, and this resulted in quick economic transformation as well.

Q. 4. Give two examples from history to show the impact of technology on food availability.

Ans. The impact of technology on food availability was manifold in the late nineteenth century. Faster railways, lighter wagons and larger

ships helped transport food more cheaply and quickly from production units to even faraway markets. Also, refrigerated ships helped transport perishable foods such as meat, butter and eggs over long distances.

Q. 5. What is meant by the Bretton Woods Agreement?

Ans. The Bretton Woods Agreement was finalised in July 1944 at Bretton Woods in New Hampshire, USA. It established the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to preserve global economic stability and full employment in the industrial world. These institutions also dealt with external surpluses and deficits of member nations, and financed post-war reconstructions.

Discuss:

Q. 6. Imagine that you are an indentured Indian labourer in the Caribbean. Drawing from the details in this chapter, write a letter to your family describing your life and feelings.

Ans.Indentured Indian labourers in the Carribbean—facts—signed a contract stating that they would return to India after working for five years at a plantation; belonged to eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, central India and the dry districts of Tamil Nadu; migrants took up the overseas jobs hoping to escape poverty and oppression in their home villages; migrants were not even informed about the long sea voyages, and some unwilling ones were abducted as well; also known as “the new system of slavery”; harsh living and working conditions; few legal rights; many escaped into the wilds; some developed new art forms for expression; some returned home after the contract period, while others stayed on.

Respected mother / father.

Convey my love to elders including my wife and bless to both my son and daughter. I am very happy. I am working in a technologically advanced industrial area of Caribbean. I am getting thick and heavy packet as remuneration five years with cost on conveyance borne with, by company. One of the company has hired me for all the time calculated.

It is developed country. Its industrial areas are neat and clean and roads are goods. There are sufficient parks, gardens and good means of transport and communications. Here are several thousand of Indians from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Central India. Even some are from Tamil Nadu and Kerala. I am having friendly relation with my Indian brothers and people from other Asian countries.

This all, I say, that I am getting here but at the cost of separation from all of you. Sometimes, I become very sad and I remember those friends who during my living in India, were very dear to me. Pay my love to my friend Ashok and Rahim. Write me something specific and receive a gift from an indentured labour, you desired from this country. I assured you of fortnight receipt in your hand.

Once again respect to all elders, love to all known of my age and great love to all children of our families.

With regards,
Your son,
xYz

Q.7.Explain the three types of movements or flows within international economic exchange. Find one example of each type of flow which involved India and Indians, and write a short account of it.

Ans. The three types of movements or flows within the international economic exchange are trade flows, human capital flows and capital flows or investments. These can be explained as—the trade in agricultural products, migration of labour, and financial loans to and from other nations.

India was a hub of trade in the pre-modern world, and it exported textiles and spices in return for gold and silver from Europe. Many different foods such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chillies and sweet potatoes came to India from the Americas after Columbus discovered it.

In the field of labour, indentured labour was provided for mines, plantations and factories abroad, in huge numbers, in the nineteenth century. This was an instrument of colonial domination by the British.

Lastly, Britain took generous loans from USA to finance the World War. Since India was an English colony, the impact of these loan debts was felt in India too. The British government increased taxes, interest rates, and lowered the prices of products it bought from the colony. Indirectly, but strongly, this affected the Indian economy and people.

Q. 8. Explain the causes of the Great Depression.

Ans. The Great Depression was a result of many different factors. The post-war global economy was weak. Also, agricultural over-production proved to be a nuisance, which was made worse by falling food grain prices. To counter this, farmers began to increase production and bring even more produce to the markets to maintain their annual incomes. This led to such a glut of food grains that prices plummeted further and farm produce was left to rot. Most countries took loans from the US, but American overseas lenders were wary about the same. When they decreased the amount of loans, the countries economically dependent on US loans faced an acute crisis. In Europe, this led to the failure of major banks and currencies such as the British pound sterling. In a bid to protect the American economy, USA doubled import duties. This worsened the world trade scenario. All these factors contributed to the Great Depression. It affected USA the worst on account of its being a global loan provider and the biggest industrial nation.

Q. 9. Explain what is referred to as the G-77 countries. In what ways can G-77 be seen as a reaction to the activities of the Bretton Woods twins?

Ans. G-77 countries is an abbreviation for the group of 77 countries that demanded a new international economic order (NIEO); a system that would give them real control over their natural resources, without being victims of neo-colonialism, that is, a new form of colonialism in trade practised by the former colonial powers.

The G-77 can be seen as a reaction to the activities of the Bretton Woods twins (the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank) because these two institutions were designed to meet the financial needs of industrial and developed countries, and did nothing for the economic growth of former colonies and developing nations.

Project Work:

Find out more about gold and diamond mining in South Africa in the nineteenth century. Who controlled the gold and diamond companies? Who were the miners and what were their lives like?

Ans. Centre for gold and diamond making was an African colony of the Britishers presently known as Northern Rhodesia arid Southern Rhodesia. These two countries at present were that time under control of the British Government as colony during 1870 C.E, Civil Rhodes was the sole representative of the British, hence, by taking benefit of economy he named the territory after his name, Rhodesia.

Thus, It is clear from above that Gold and Diamond region presently existed iii the form of two countries i.e. North Rhodesia and South Rhodesia—a colony of Great Britain. Swaziland and Basutoland were also British colonies like Rhodesia.

These African colonies were occupied by the British when their conspiracy to overthrow Boer Government of Transvaal met to success. They also defeated Boers in a battle that took place subsequently and popularly known as Boer War that ran continuously for three years (1899— 1902).

Managers were the British companies while labourers were people from India, South Asia and Africa, They played several tricks to compel people in Africa for working as labourers in mines. Inheritance or succession laws were changed and peasants were displaced or evicted from their own lands. So, erstwhile peasants were subsequently made mine workers and labourers by several changes brought n legislations..

Multiple Choice Questions:

(i) In which year did the First World War break out?

(a) 1911 (c) 1919
(b) 1943 (d) 1914

(ii) Which American president built up a plan known as New Deal?

(a) Theodore D. Roosevelt (c) Franklin D. Roosevelt
(b) Richard M. Nixon (d) Lyndon B. Johnson

(iii) In which year did the Bretton Woods Conference take place?

(a) 1941 (c) 1943
(b) 1942 (d)1944

(iv) Which organization represents the interests of more than 120 less developed states of the world?

(a) New International Economic Order

(b) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

(c) International Monetary Fund

(d) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

(v) The Great Depression started with the crash of _________

(a) British Stock Exchange

(b) New York Stock Exchange

(c) French Stock Exchange

(d) None of these

Ans. (i) d; (ii) c; (iii) d; (iv) c; (v) b.

Fill in the Blanks:

(a) A plan offered by U.S.A for the recovery of European nations was called ___________

(b) The Great Depression started with the Stock Exchange crash of __________.

(c) The International Monetary Fund and ____________ were set up by financial conference held at Bretton Woods.

(d) GATT was established at ___________ in the year _________.

(e) The short name for association of South Asian Nations is ___________

Ans. (a) Marshall Plan; (b) 1929; (c) World Bank; (d) Geneva, 1948; (e) SAARC.

Chapter 4